

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite the elements considered by the inventor to comprise the subject matter of the invention, and to overcome the asserted indefiniteness regarding the terms "said ends," "front" and "side surfaces." As amended, the metal piece is recited as having a main surface in one plane and front and side surfaces abutting perpendicularly "and extending in a perpendicular direction relative to the plane of the main surface." The limitation of a thickness of at least 20 μm has also been added to each of independent Claims 1, 18 and 19. Support for this amendment is found at least in Claim 4 and at page 8, lines 9 and 19, of the application as filed. Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 5 has been amended to omit the objected to "preferably" language, and new Claim 16 has been added to recite the parameters deleted from Claim 5. Claim 17 has been added to more clearly recite that the front and side surfaces are "aligned" and extend in parallel planes.

Claims 18 and 19 have been added to more precisely claim the subject matter considered by the inventor to be his invention. No new matter has been added.

As amended, the claims of the present invention more clearly distinguish the cited references. Moreover, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Gerber et al. is respectfully considered improper, in that each and every limitation recited in Claim 1 is not shown or described in the reference. Specifically, Gerber et al. fail to teach the

oppositely disposed ends extending out of the plane of the resistor as defined by the metal piece, nor that the front and side surfaces are aligned, nor, as is recited in new Claim 17, that the surfaces extend in planes that are parallel to each other.

Additionally, the recitation of the thickness of the film being at least 20 μm in Claim 1 and new Claims 18 and 19 have not been met. New Claims 18 and 19 provide alternative recitations of the subject matter considered to embody the invention. None of the references describe the recitations of the new Claims 18 and 19, as set forth above with respect to the discussion of Claim 1. Specifically, none of the references teach a thickness of the resistor of at least 20 μm .

Additionally, none of the references disclose the limitations recited in Claim 2, wherein the resistance value of the resistor is between 0.5 $\text{m}\Omega$ and 5.0 $\text{m}\Omega$. This results from the types of devices for which the resistors are to be used. For example, the air bag of Gerber et al. does not disclose the recited milliohm range of ohmic resistance, because of the sudden heat rise required in such a device. That is, the air bags of Gerber et al. require much greater resistance values in order to obtain the desired "explosion", so as to ignite a gas generating pyrotechnic.

Similarly, neither do Clouser et al. teach the limitations now recited in the claims. For example, the thickness limitation is not met and reference to Column 23, lines 6-8, shows that the ohmic limitation also is not met.

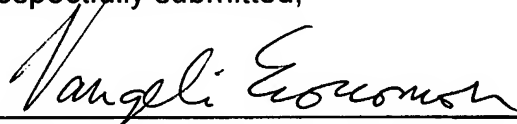
Moreover, Applicant respectfully suggests that the incentive to combine the Clouser et al. and Gerber et al. references is improper, and is a result of hindsight

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reasoning. It is respectfully submitted that the "obvious to try" standard, as suggested in the Office Action and as taken by official notice, is improper in light of the contrary teachings of the references.

For the above reasons, it is considered that the claims, as amended, find support in the application specification as filed, and that the combination of elements recited in the pending claims, as amended, distinguish over the references of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested and an indication of allowable subject matter is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Vangelis Economou -Reg. No. 32,341
c/o Ryndak & Suri
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2630
Chicago Illinois 60602
Tel. No. (312) 214-7770